



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Southern District of Indiana*

*10 West Market Street
Suite 2100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*(317)226-6333
TDD (317)226-5438*

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*FAX NUMBERS:
Criminal (317)226-6125
Administration (317)226-5176
Civil (317)226-5027
FLU (317) 226-6133
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

CONTACT PERSON:

Claudia Cummings
(317) 229-2477 office
(317) 590-7928 mobile

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MAN SENTENCED FOR ESCAPE FROM PRISON CAMP

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JUAN ALBERTO MENDIOLA, 27, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following his guilty plea to escape from prison. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Marshal's Service.

On November 6, 2003, Mendiola was convicted of conspiracy to distribute cocaine in this District. Chief Judge McKinney sentenced Mendiola to 135 months imprisonment. The Bureau of Prisons designated the Federal Prison Camp in Terre Haute as the place for incarceration. Mendiola arrived at FPC Terre Haute on December 3, 2003 to begin execution of his sentence.

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On September 25, 2004, the Camp determined that an inmate was missing during the 9:30 p.m. count. A formal bed book count was conducted, and it was then determined that Mendiola was the missing inmate. A search of the grounds and related area were conducted with negative results. Mendiola was placed on escape status that night and remained in fugitive status until his arrest in Chicago on October 8, 2004.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney James M. Warden, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney ordered that MENDIOLA'S sentence be served consecutive to the prison term he was serving at the time of escape. Judge McKinney also imposed two years supervised release following MENDIOLA's imprisonment.

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